

PROBABLY THE BEST SUPERHERO COMIC BOOK IN THE UNIVERSE!

27

\$2.99
\$3.65 CAN

INVINCIBLE



KIRKMAN • OTTLEY • CRABTREE

image[®] COMICS PRESENTS

INVINCIBLE[™]

ROBERT KIRKMAN

WRITER

RYAN OTTLEY

PENCILER & INKER

BILL CRABTREE

COLORIST

RUS WOOTON

LETTERER

CREATED BY ROBERT KIRKMAN & CORY WALKER



IMAGE COMICS, INC.

Erik Larsen - Publisher
Todd McFarlane - President
Marc Silvestri - CEO
Jim Valentino - Vice-President
Eric Stephenson - Executive Director
Jim Demonakos - PR & Marketing Coordinator
Mia MacHatton - Accounts Manager
Laurenn McCubbin - Art Director
Allen Hui - Production Artist
Joe Keatinge - Traffic Manager
Jonathan Chan - Production Assistant
www.imagecomics.com

INVINCIBLE #27, November 2005. Published by Image Comics, Inc., Office of publication: 1942 University Avenue, Suite 305, Berkeley, California 94704. Copyright © 2005 Robert Kirkman & Cory Walker. All rights reserved. INVINCIBLE[™] (including all prominent characters featured in this issue), its logo and all character likenesses are trademarks of Robert Kirkman & Cory Walker, unless otherwise noted. CAPES[™] (including all prominent characters featured in this issue), its logo and all character likenesses are trademarks of Robert Kirkman, unless otherwise noted. Image Comics[®] is a trademark of Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means (except for short excerpts for review purposes) without the express written permission of Image Comics, Inc. All names, characters, events and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events or places, without satiric intent, is coincidental. PRINTED IN CANADA

MEANWHILE,
BACK ON EARTH.

BEHOLD
THE MIGHT OF
OMNIPOTUS,
THE WORLD
SHAPER, AND
BEHOLD THE
END OF ALL
THINGS!

TREMBLE
BEFORE MY
UNLIMITED
POWER!





THIS IS GOING TO COST A FORTUNE.

WILL YOU JUST SHUT UP? THIS IS IMPORTANT.

NOW GET ON THAT PAD-- YOU'RE GOING TOO!

SURE THING, BOSS--YOU KNOW ME, ALWAYS HAPPY TO HELP!

IT TAKES A LOT FOR ME TO GET MY HANDS DIRTY THESE DAYS-- I GUESS IF BRIT CAN COME OUT OF RETIREMENT SO CAN I!

DONALD!! YOU'RE A ROBOT?!

PRETTY MUCH.

VZOP! VZOP! VZOP! VZOP! VZOP!

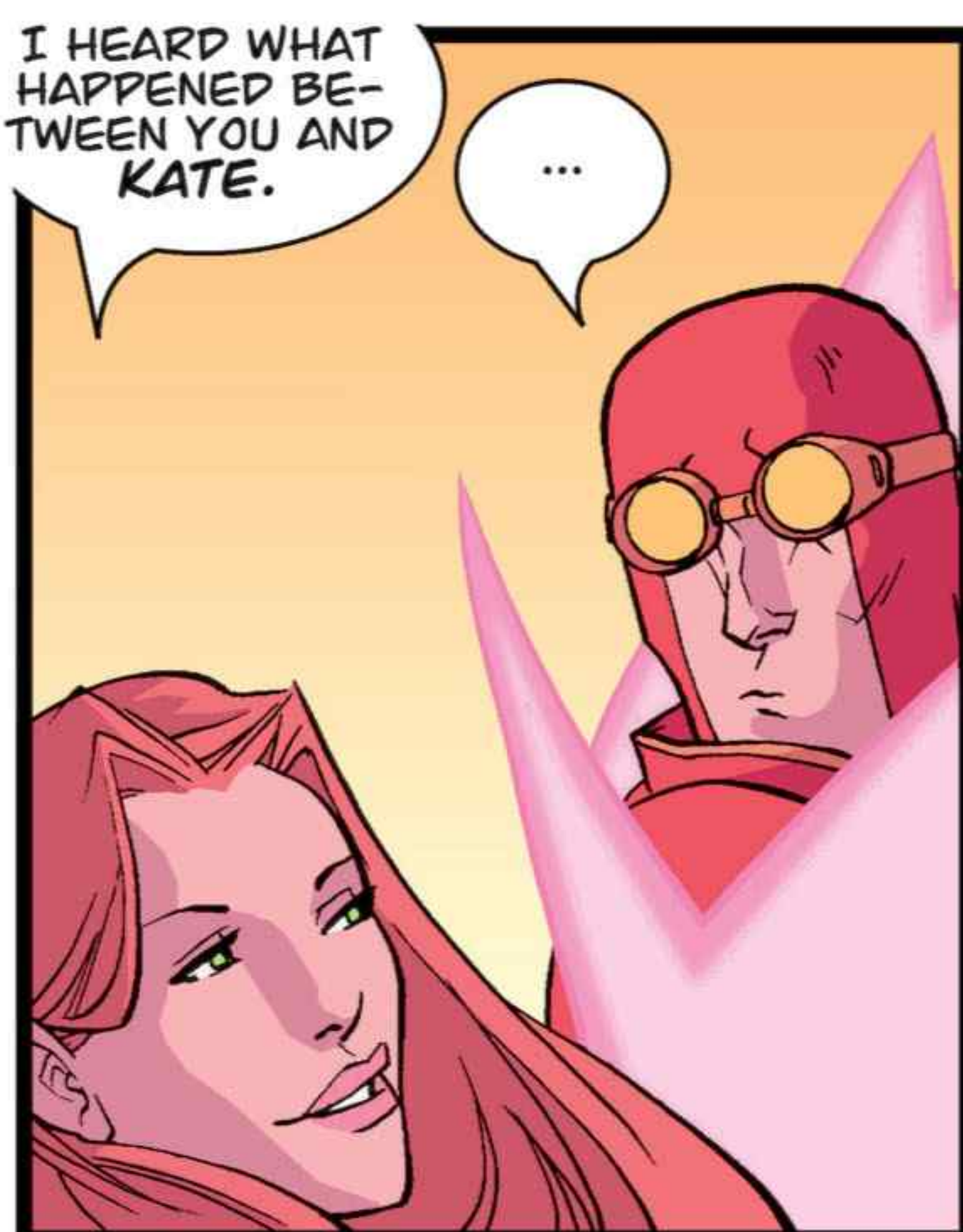
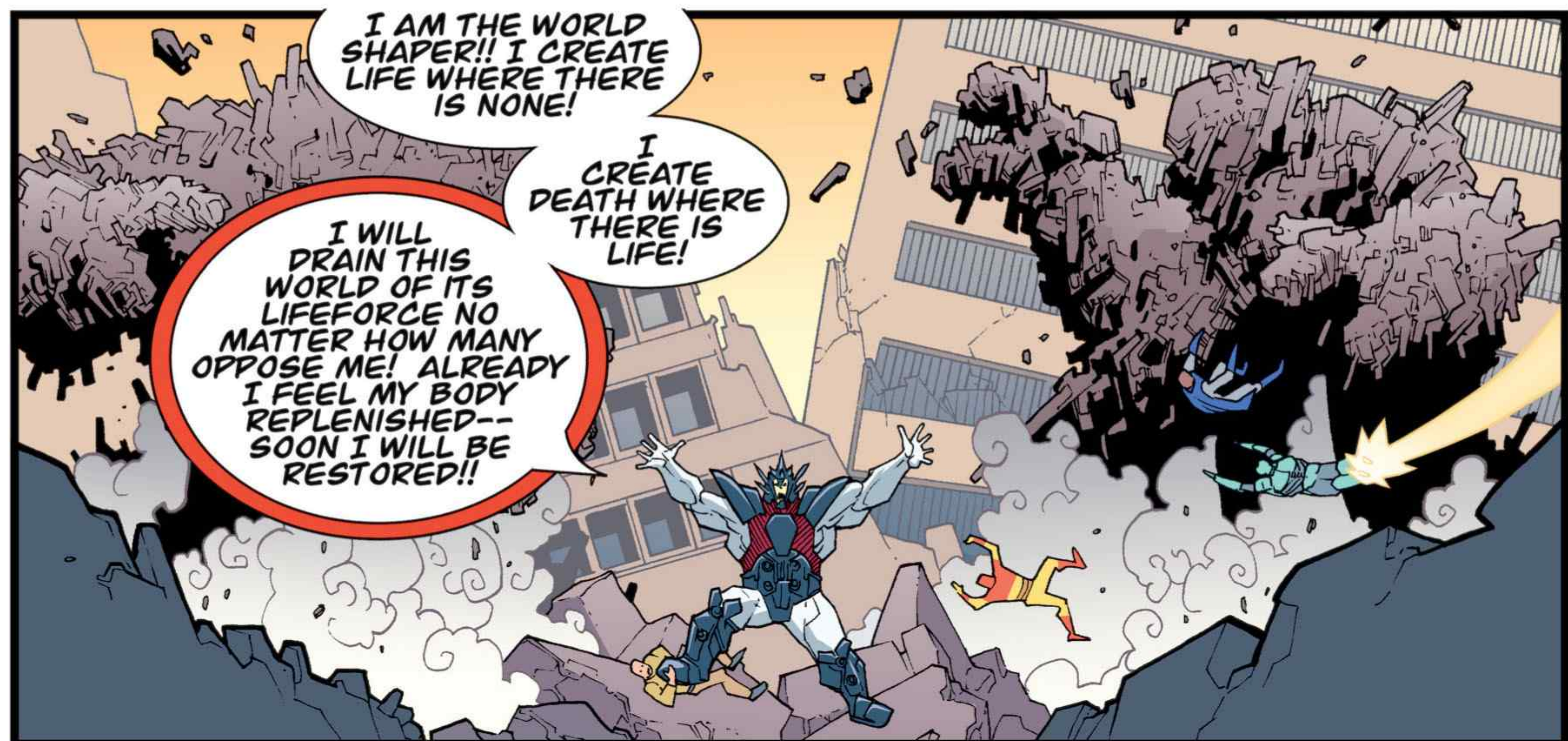
YES, I LIKE THIS WORLD VERY MUCH.

SO MANY PLAY-THINGS.

BASH!!

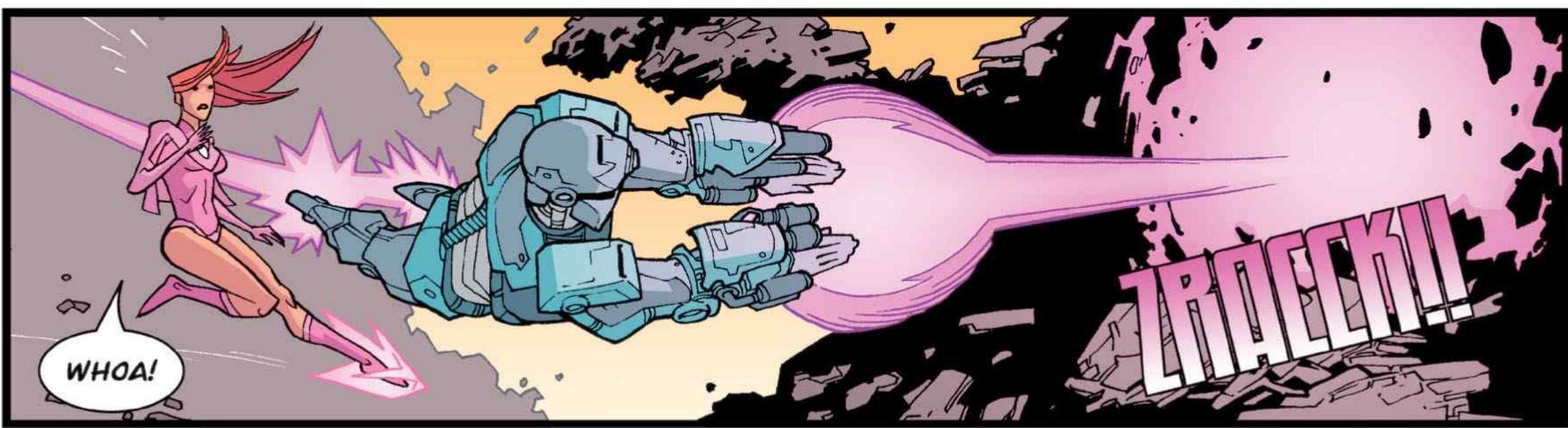
AGG!!

JEEZ!





I'M TAKING THESE THINGS OUT!



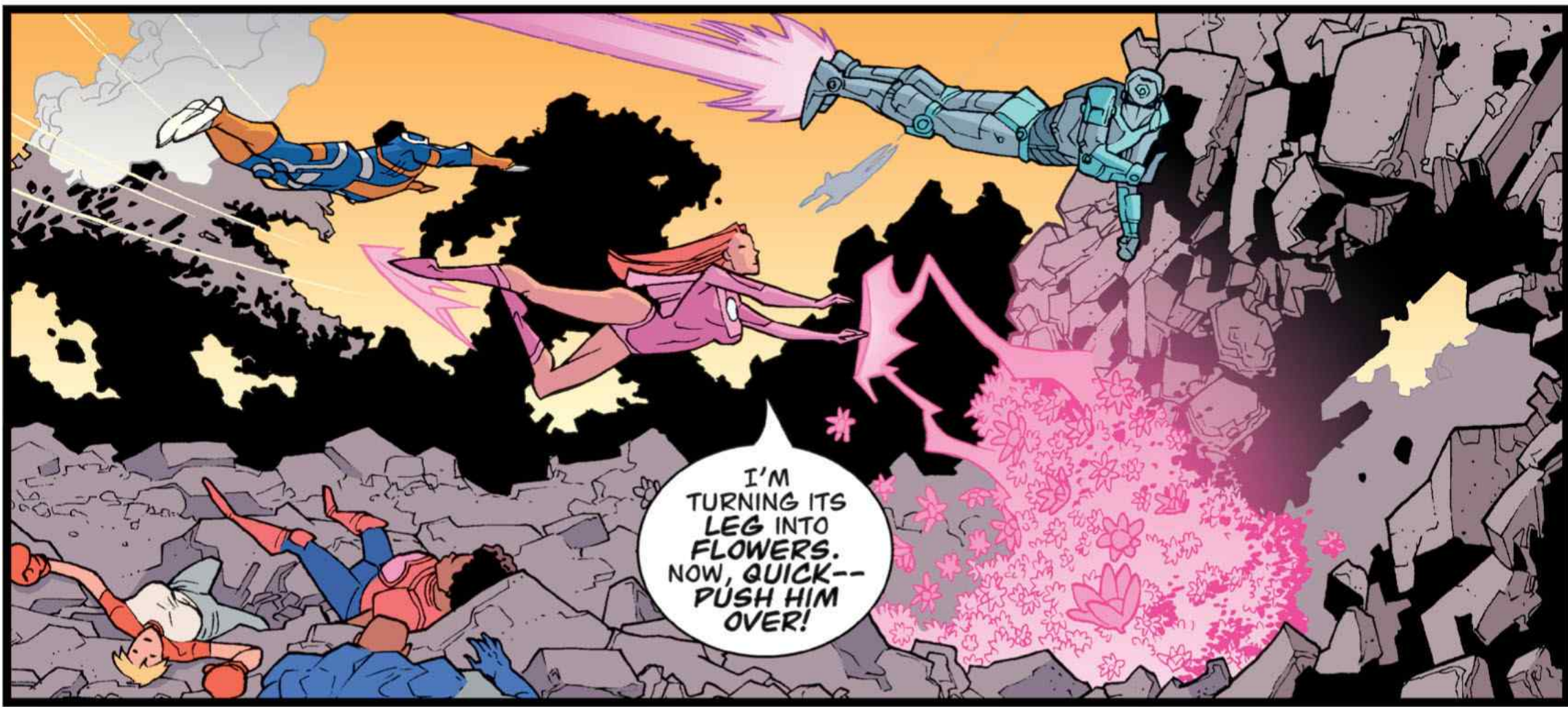
WHOA!



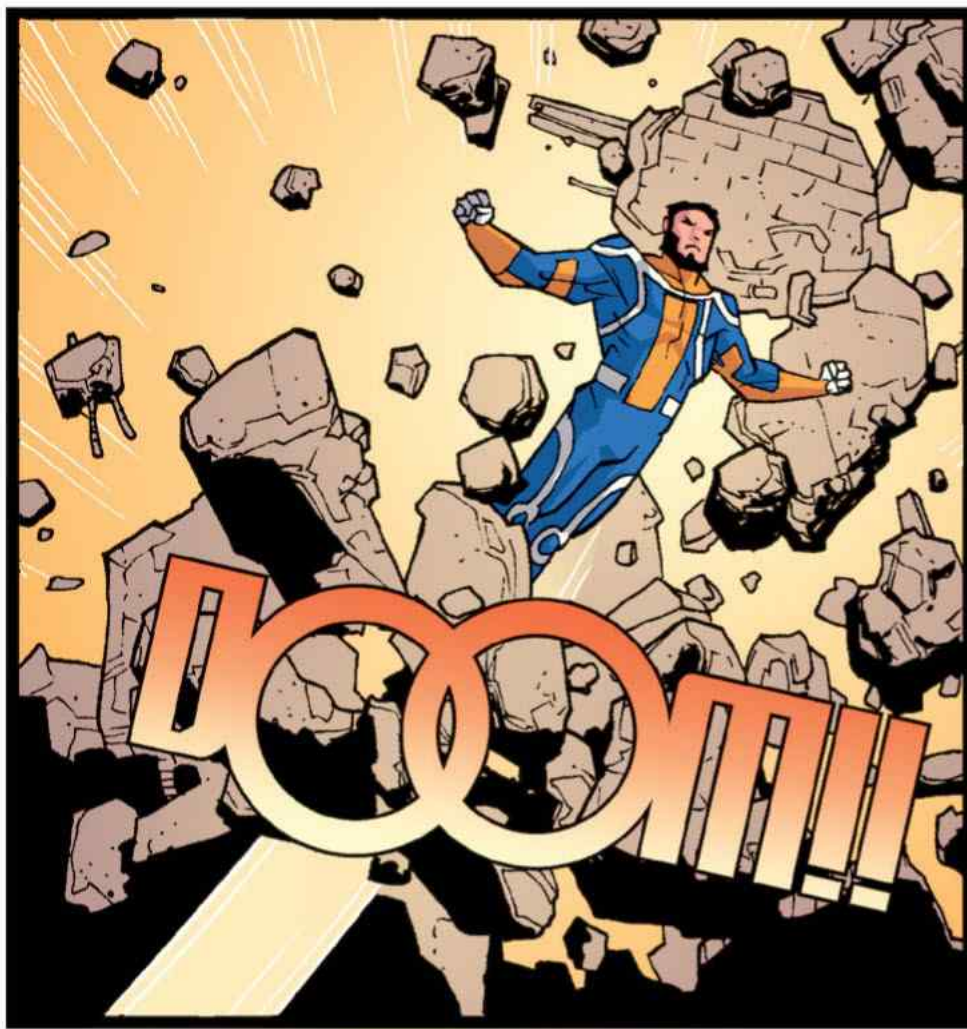
SORRY ABOUT CUTTING YOU OFF LIKE THAT--I'M STILL A LITTLE NEW TO ALL THIS. I PROMISE.



DON'T SWEAT IT, TECH JACKET--JUST COVER ME WHILE I TAKE OUT ANOTHER ONE!



I'M TURNING ITS LEGS INTO FLOWERS. NOW, QUICK--PUSH HIM OVER!



DOOM!!!



EAT THIS, OMNIPTOPUSS!



MORE TICKLE-RAYS FROM THE GNATS.

I ALWAYS MISS THIS PART THE MOST WHEN IT'S OVER.



TICKLE RAYS?! SCREW THIS!!



TECH JACKET! WE NEED TO DO THIS NOW! THE DISTRACTION IS NOT WORKING.

IT'S NOW OR NEVER--COME GET ME!



ROAARRR!!

SURE THING, ROBOT.

WHEW!



YOU'VE GOT THE WARP-KEY?

IT'S RIGHT HERE. BUILT BASED ON THE DESIGN YOU HELPED STEAL FROM HIS WARP-VESSEL. IT JUST NEEDS A POWER SUPPLY.

ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN POWER IT?



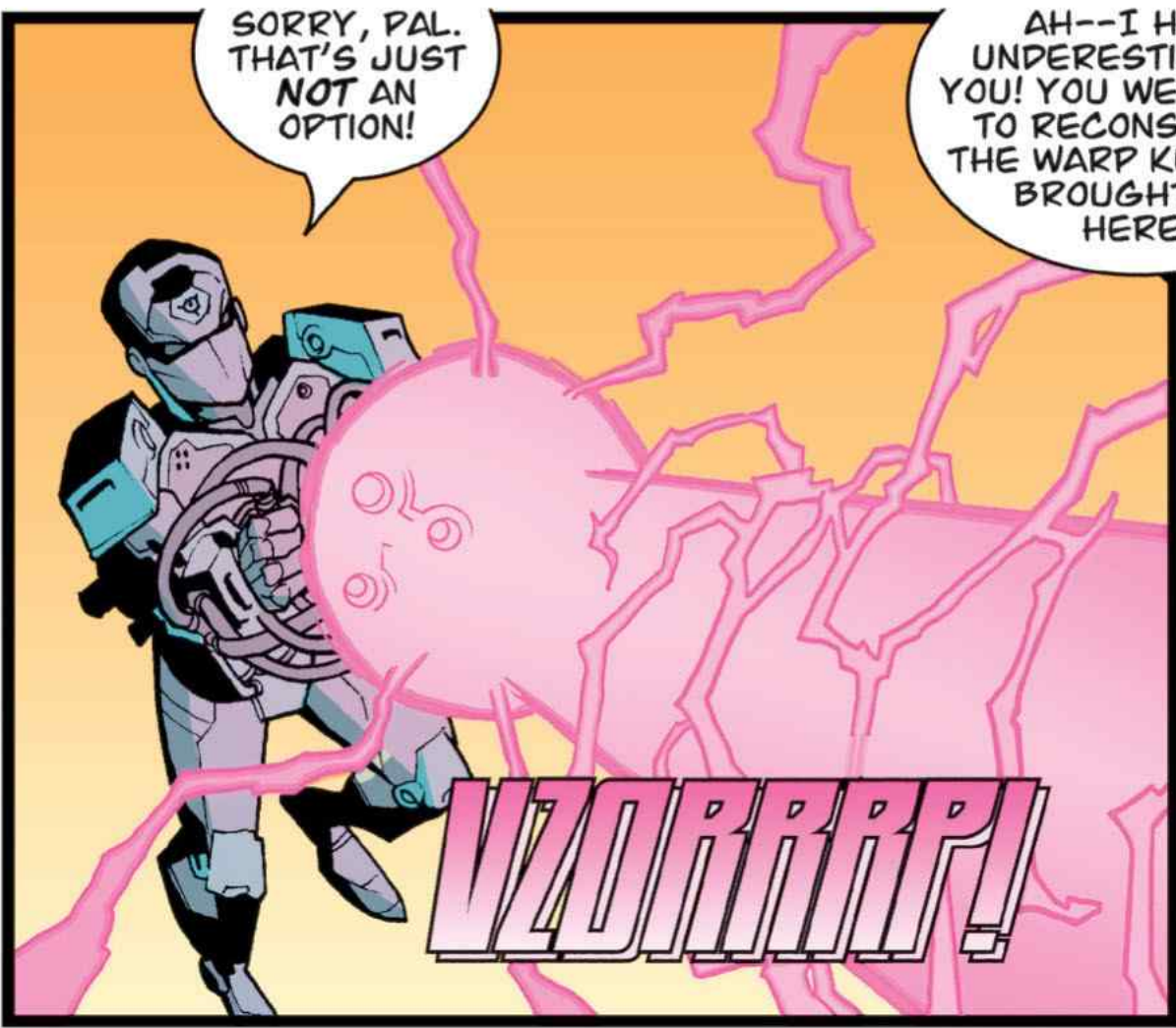
I'M OUR ONLY HOPE--I'LL HAVE TO.

VERY TRUE.

HERE GOES NOTHING.

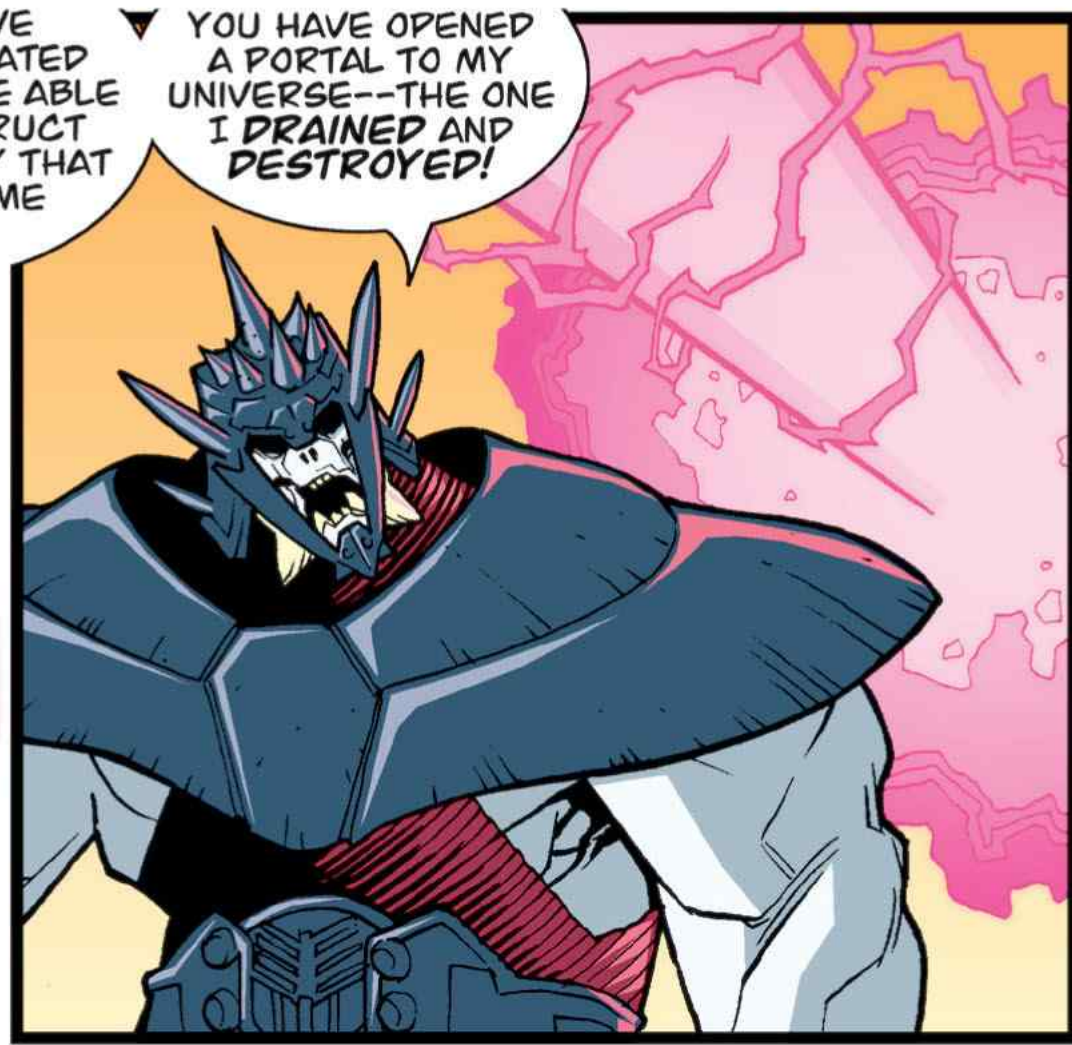


MY RESTORATION IS NEARLY COMPLETE--YOU'D BE WISE TO SURRENDER.



SORRY, PAL. THAT'S JUST NOT AN OPTION!

AH--I HAVE UNDERESTIMATED YOU! YOU WERE ABLE TO RECONSTRUCT THE WARP KEY THAT BROUGHT ME HERE.



YOU HAVE OPENED A PORTAL TO MY UNIVERSE--THE ONE I DRAINED AND DESTROYED!



IT MATTERS NOT!



TOO WEAK--POWER DRAINED.



THE PORTAL WILL BE CLOSED IN MOMENTS--AND EVEN WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT COMBINED, YOU LACK THE POWER TO FORCE ME THROUGH.

IT'S OVER!! I HAVE WON!!



EXCUSE ME--





THIS IS NOT OVER! I WILL NOT BE DEFEATED!

OMNIPOTUS WILL RETURN!



NOT WITHOUT THIS YOU WON'T.



SKRAGG!!



NICE JOB, SAMSON-- IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK.



I WOULDN'T TELL HIM ABOUT HIS SUIT IF I WERE YOU.

WAY AHEAD OF YOU.



WHAT IS GOING ON? EVERYTHING IS GOING BACK TO NORMAL.



IT'S LIKE IT NEVER HAPPENED.

NOT AGAIN. I HATE IT WHEN THIS HAPPENS.

JUDGING BY THE REACTION OF THE PEOPLE AROUND US-- I SUSPECT THEY HAVE NO MEMORY OF THE EVENTS THAT JUST TOOK PLACE.

HM. SO I GUESS WE SHOULD GET OUT OF HERE THEN.



IT'S FUNNY, I NEVER REALIZE IT UNTIL WE'RE ALL STANDING TOGETHER LIKE THIS.

IT'S MOMENTS LIKE THESE WHEN YOU REALIZE JUST HOW SILLY WE ALL LOOK.





WHAT ABOUT HIM?

YOU SEE THE COLOR OF HIS SKIN, HOW IT'S DIFFERENT FROM OURS? THAT'S BECAUSE ANDRESSA'S PEOPLE ARE NOT AS COMPATIBLE WITH VILTRUMITE DNA AS HUMANS WERE.

YOU THINK?!

I WOULD APPRECIATE YOU GETTING RID OF THE TONE, SON. I'M STILL YOUR FATHER.

UNDER-
STAND?



OKAY, GOT IT. PLEASE--GO ON. JUST MAKE THIS ALL MAKE SENSE TO ME, DAD. PLEASE.

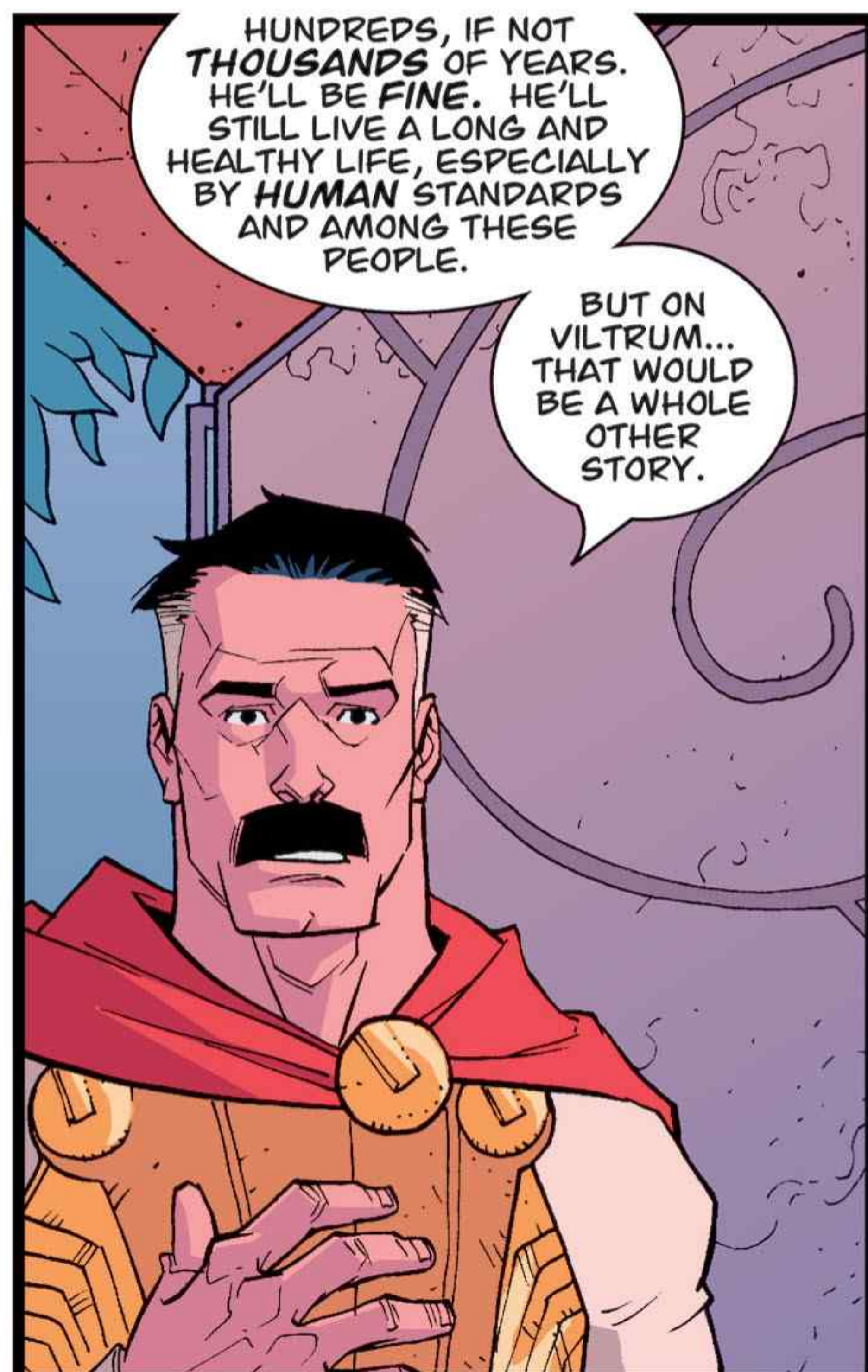


YOUR BROTHER'S SKIN TONE ISN'T THE ONLY THING DIFFERENT. HE'S-- WELL, HE'S **THREE WEEKS** OLD, MARK. BY EARTH STANDARDS HE LOOKS TO BE A YEAR OLD.

HE IS AGING TOO FAST. NOW, I SUSPECT THE VILTRUMITE DNA WILL CAUSE HIS AGING TO **SLOW** JUST AS IT HAS YOURS WHEN HE REACHES PUBERTY--BUT HOW **MUCH** IT WILL SLOW DOWN IS STILL IN QUESTION.

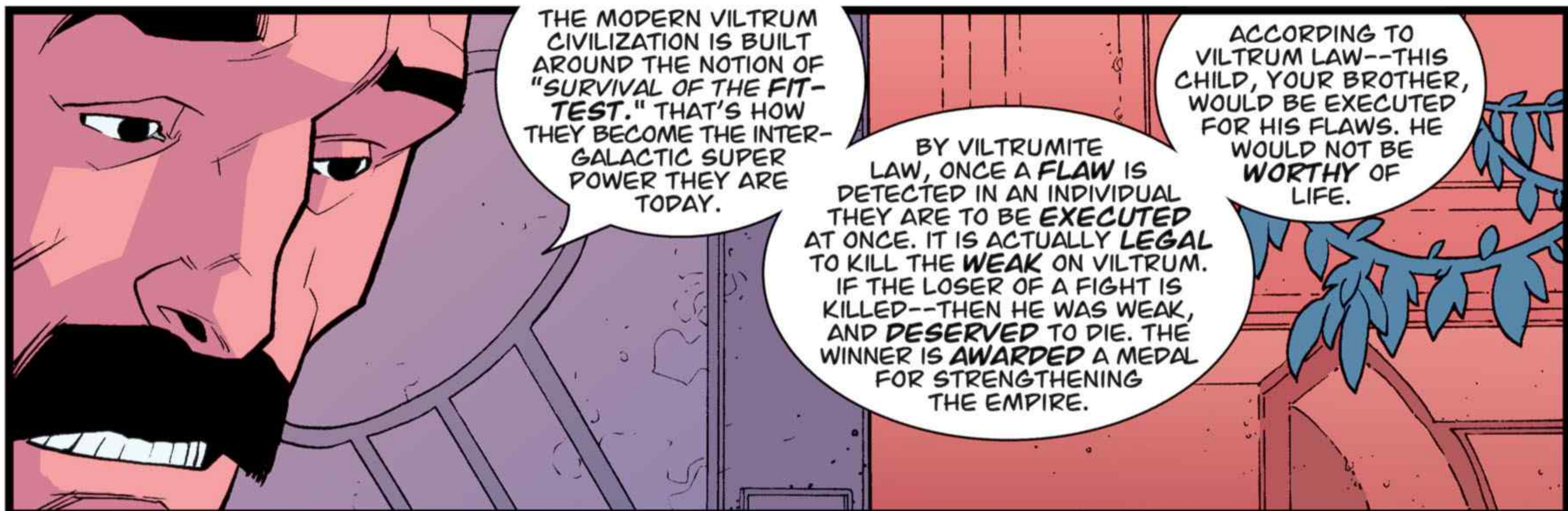


IS HE GOING TO--? I MEAN, HOW LONG DO YOU THINK HE HAS?



HUNDREDS, IF NOT **THOUSANDS** OF YEARS. HE'LL BE FINE. HE'LL STILL LIVE A LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE, ESPECIALLY BY **HUMAN** STANDARDS AND AMONG THESE PEOPLE.

BUT ON VILTRUM... THAT WOULD BE A WHOLE OTHER STORY.



THE MODERN VILTRUM CIVILIZATION IS BUILT AROUND THE NOTION OF "SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST." THAT'S HOW THEY BECOME THE INTER-GALACTIC SUPER POWER THEY ARE TODAY.

BY VILTRUMITE LAW, ONCE A **FLAW** IS DETECTED IN AN INDIVIDUAL THEY ARE TO BE **EXECUTED** AT ONCE. IT IS ACTUALLY **LEGAL** TO KILL THE **WEAK** ON VILTRUM. IF THE LOSER OF A FIGHT IS KILLED--THEN HE WAS **WEAK**, AND **DESERVED** TO DIE. THE WINNER IS **AWARDED** A MEDAL FOR STRENGTHENING THE EMPIRE.

ACCORDING TO VILTRUM LAW--THIS CHILD, YOUR BROTHER, WOULD BE EXECUTED FOR HIS FLAWS. HE WOULD NOT BE **WORTHY** OF LIFE.



WHAT'S HIS NAME? YOU HAVEN'T CALLED HIM BY NAME YET, YOU KEEP SAYING "SON" OR "YOUR BROTHER."



THE CUSTOM HERE IS FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TO **CHOOSE** THEIR OWN NAME ONCE THEY REACH ADULTHOOD.

WHICH WOULD BE **TWO WEEKS** FROM NOW, WERE IT NOT FOR HIS VILTRUMITE BLOOD.



WHAT IS **YOUR** NAME?

I MEAN--NOLAN IS AN **EARTH** NAME, RIGHT? YOU HAD TO HAVE A DIFFERENT NAME ON VILTRUM.



NO, NOLAN IS AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY NAME. THE VILTRUMITES HAVE NO NEED FOR LAST NAMES, SO GRAYSON WAS ADDED WHILE I WAS ON EARTH.



THE PRONUNCIATION WAS JUST A BIT DIFFERENT, AS I RECALL. CLOSER TO "NOWL-AHN" BUT MORE OR LESS THE SAME.



SOMEHOW THAT MAKES ME FEEL **BETTER**. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT GOT TO ME THE **MOST** WAS THAT I MORE THAN LIKELY DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOUR **NAME** ANYMORE.



I HOPE THIS TALK WE'VE HAD IS SHOWING YOU THAT YOU KNEW ME BETTER THAN EVEN I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ADMITTED.

I'M SORRY, SON--FOR EVERYTHING.



THAT, THOUGH, DOESN'T HELP AT ALL.

AN APOLOGY JUST ISN'T GOING TO CUT IT.



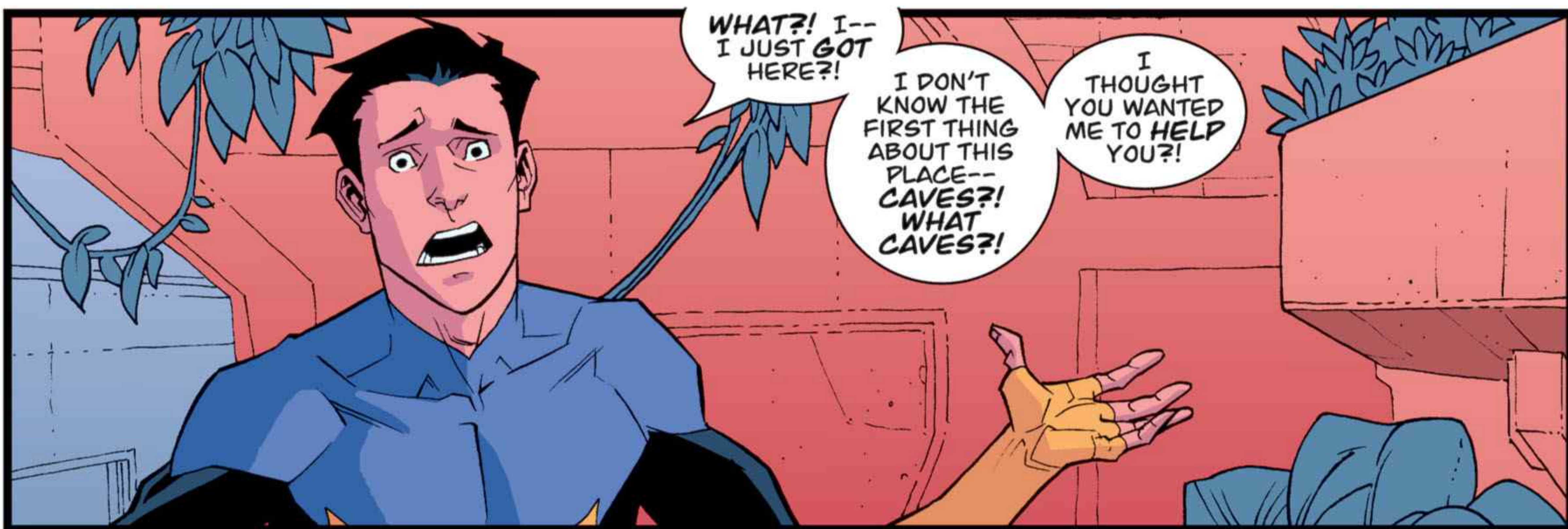




MARK!
TAKE THEM
TO THE
CAVES!

ANDRESSA
WILL SHOW
YOU THE WAY!
GO!

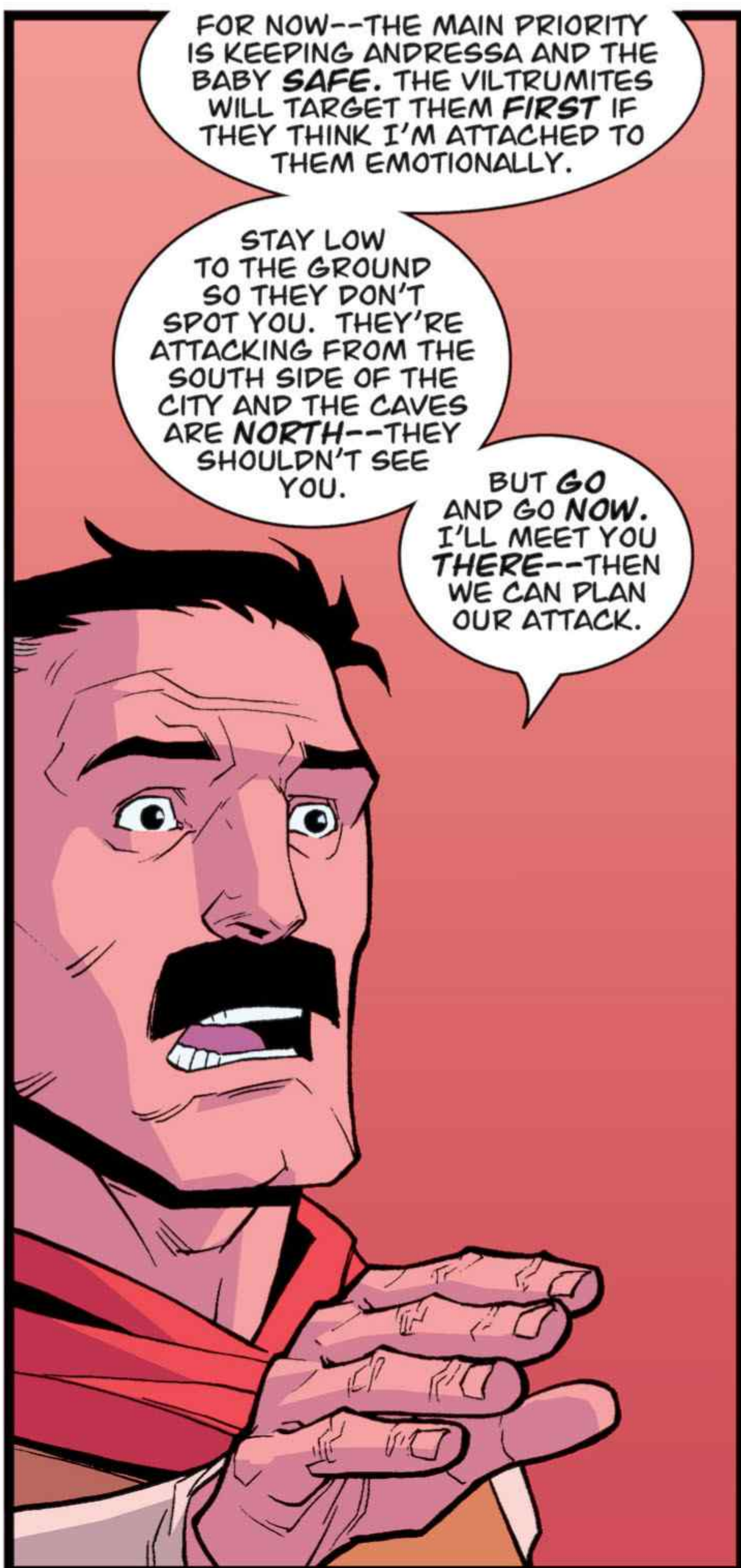
GO
NOW!!



WHAT?! I--
I JUST GOT
HERE?!

I DON'T
KNOW THE
FIRST THING
ABOUT THIS
PLACE--
CAVES?!
WHAT
CAVES?!

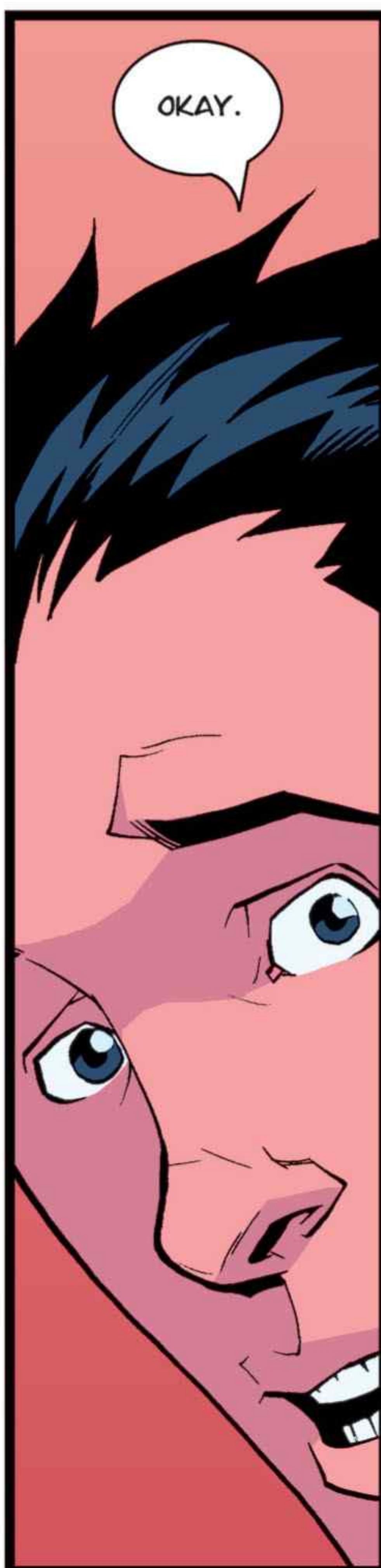
I
THOUGHT
YOU WANTED
ME TO HELP
YOU?!



FOR NOW--THE MAIN PRIORITY
IS KEEPING ANDRESSA AND THE
BABY **SAFE**. THE VILTRUMITES
WILL TARGET THEM **FIRST** IF
THEY THINK I'M ATTACHED TO
THEM EMOTIONALLY.

STAY LOW
TO THE GROUND
SO THEY DON'T
SPOT YOU. THEY'RE
ATTACKING FROM THE
SOUTH SIDE OF THE
CITY AND THE CAVES
ARE **NORTH**--THEY
SHOULDN'T SEE
YOU.

BUT **GO**
AND **GO NOW**.
I'LL MEET YOU
THERE--THEN
WE CAN PLAN
OUR ATTACK.



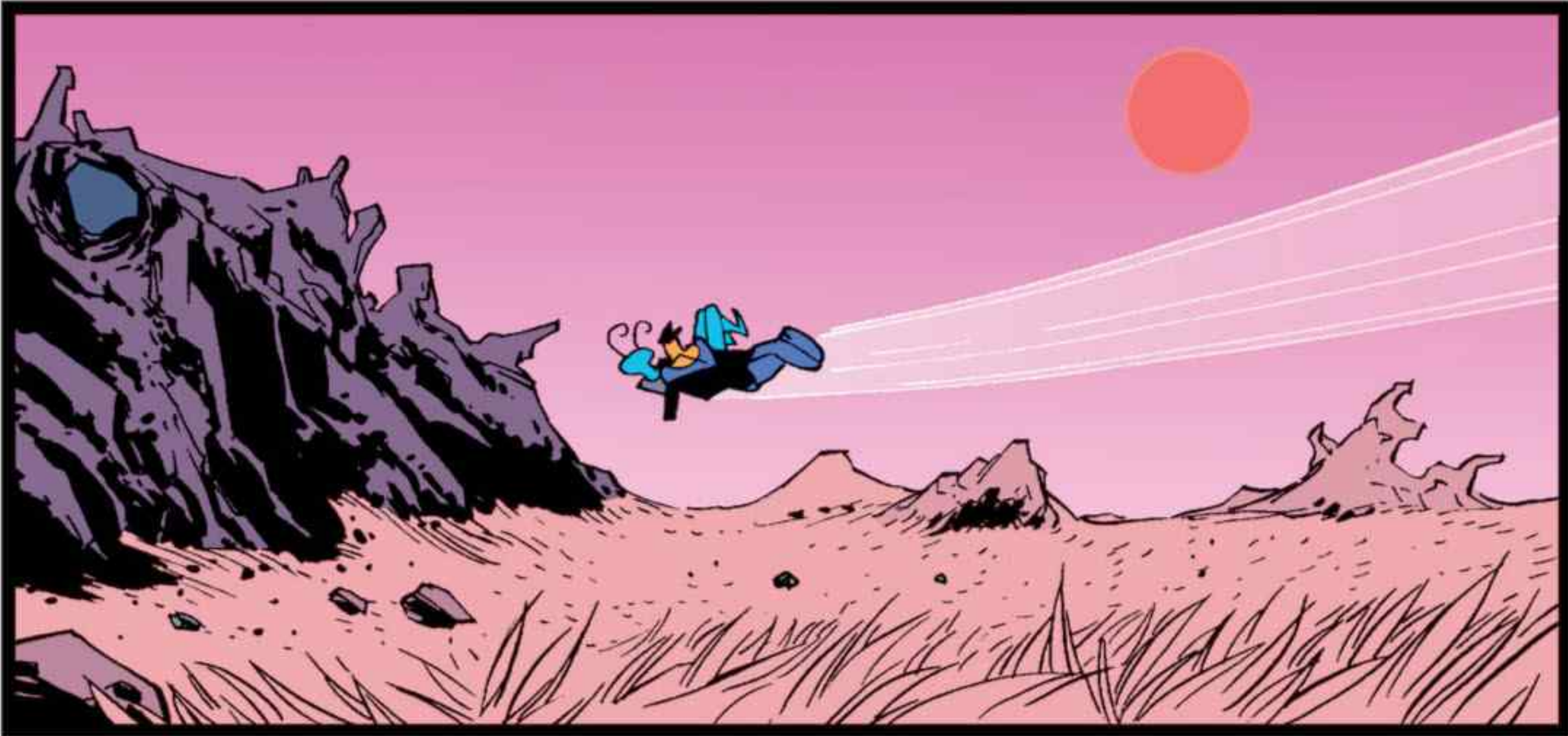
OKAY.

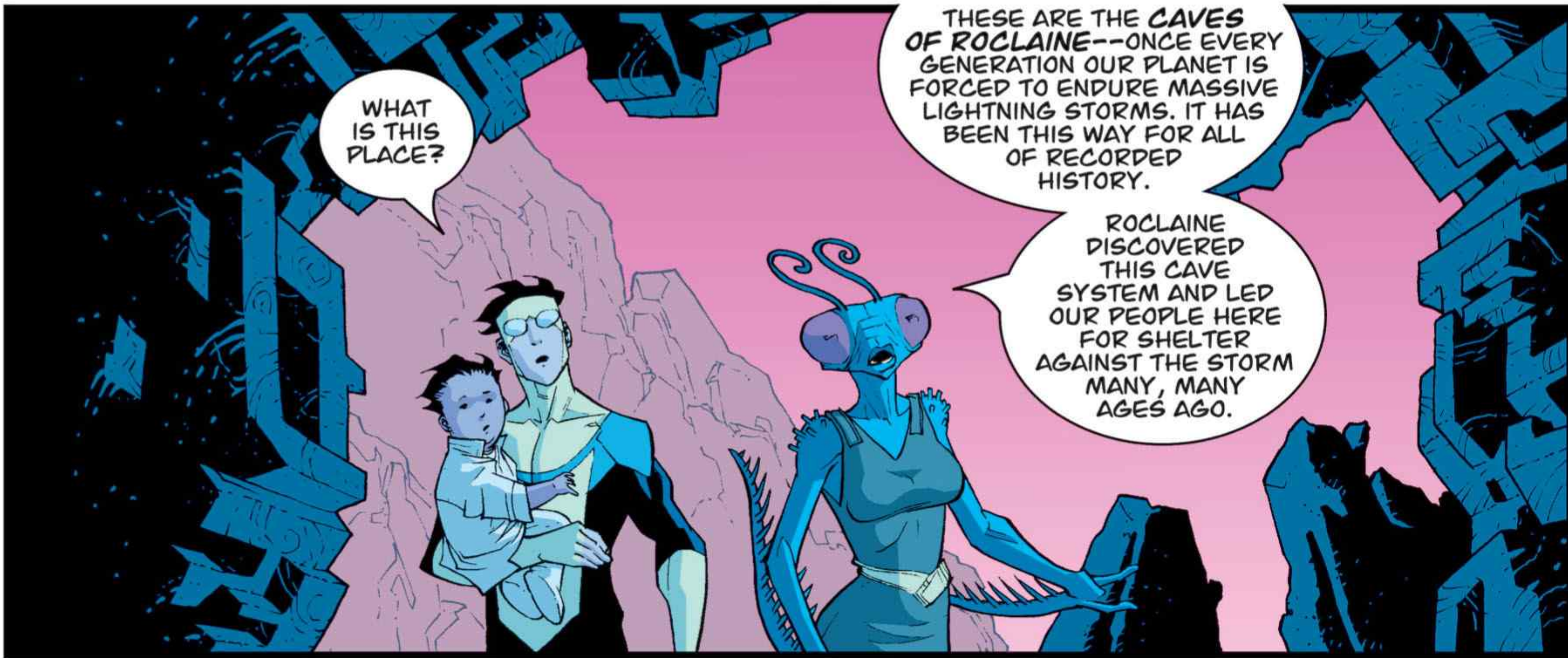


OKAY. DON'T
WORRY, I'LL
KEEP THEM
SAFE.

PLEASE
DO, MARK. I'M
COUNTING
ON YOU.

COME,
MARK. I
I'LL GUIDE
YOU.





WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

THESE ARE THE **CAVES OF ROCLAIN**---ONCE EVERY GENERATION OUR PLANET IS FORCED TO ENDURE MASSIVE LIGHTNING STORMS. IT HAS BEEN THIS WAY FOR ALL OF RECORDED HISTORY.

ROCLAIN DISCOVERED THIS CAVE SYSTEM AND LED OUR PEOPLE HERE FOR SHELTER AGAINST THE STORM MANY, MANY AGES AGO.

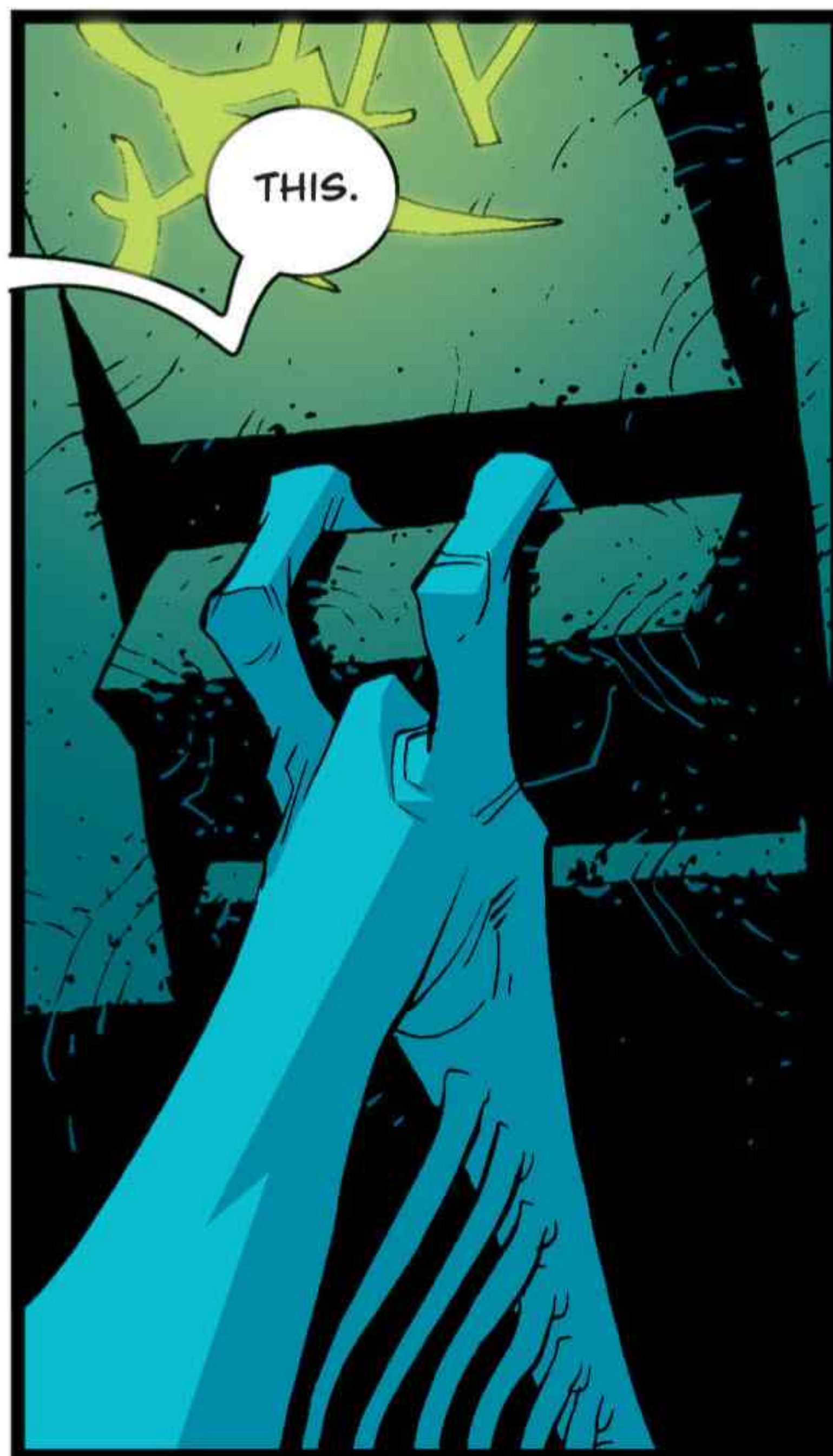


IT WAS ALSO USED AS A **HAVEN** FOR OUR PEOPLE DURING THE WARS OF TIMES PAST BEFORE MY PEOPLE UNITED UNDER ONE WORLD RULER.

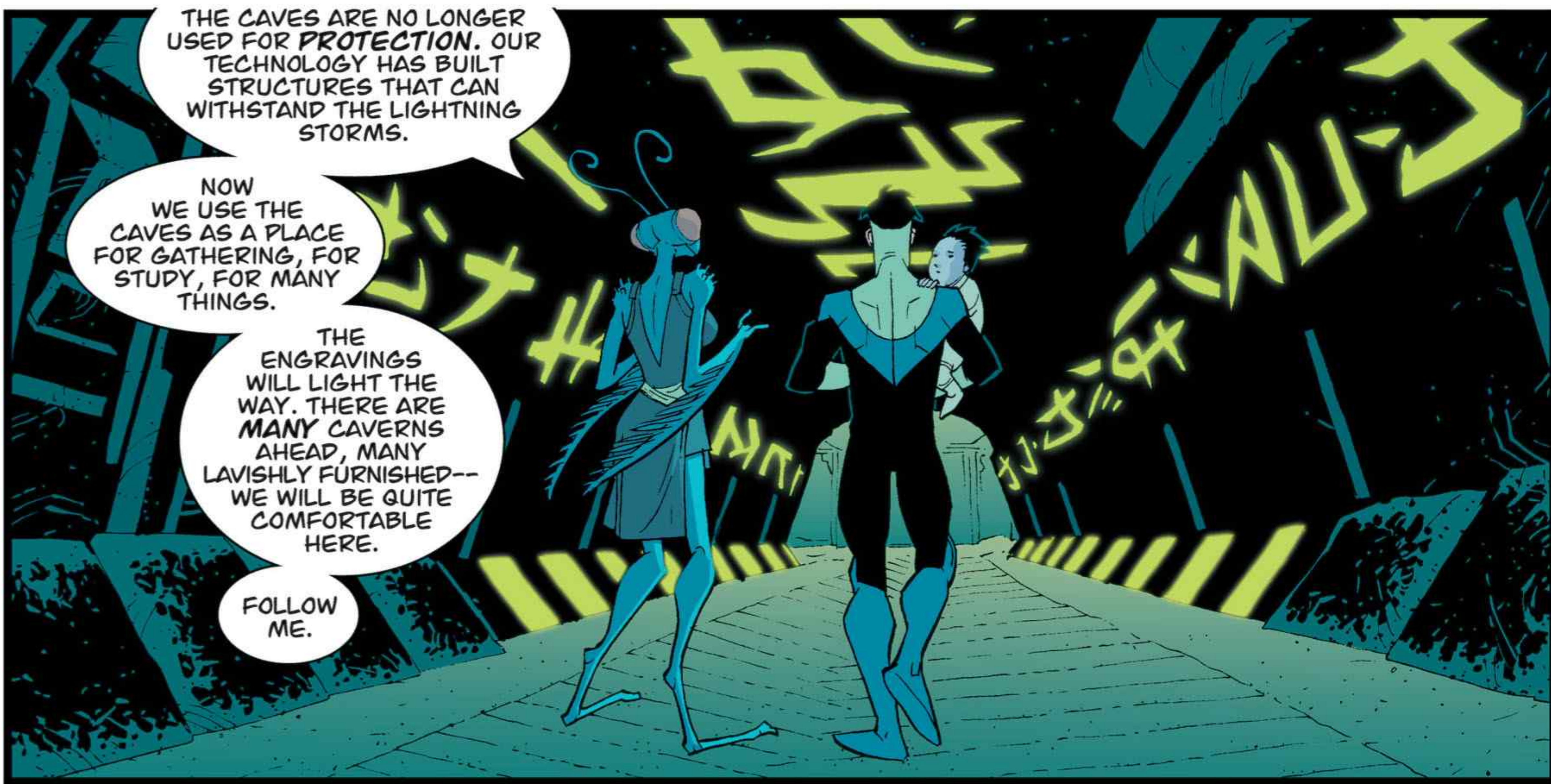


THAT'S INTERESTING.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?



THIS.



THE CAVES ARE NO LONGER USED FOR **PROTECTION**. OUR TECHNOLOGY HAS BUILT STRUCTURES THAT CAN WITHSTAND THE LIGHTNING STORMS.

NOW WE USE THE CAVES AS A PLACE FOR GATHERING, FOR STUDY, FOR MANY THINGS.

THE ENGRAVINGS WILL LIGHT THE WAY. THERE ARE **MANY** CAVERNS AHEAD, MANY LAVISHLY FURNISHED--WE WILL BE QUITE COMFORTABLE HERE.

FOLLOW ME.

SO--YOU'VE
BEEN WITH MY
FATHER
FOR...?

MOST OF MY
LIFE. AS YOUR
FATHER DESCRIBED
YOUR TIME KEEPING
METHODS TO
US, THREE
MONTHS.

THREE
MONTHS?! MAN--
HE DIDN'T WASTE
ANY TIME...

IT IS AN HONOR
TO BE **COUPLED**
WITH YOUR FATHER.
HE IS A GREAT
LEADER AND HAS
DONE A GREAT
MANY THINGS
TO **HELP** MY
PEOPLE.

FROM
WHAT I HAVE
SEEN YOU
ARE VERY
MUCH HIS
SON.

I
SUPPOSE--
IN **SOME**
WAYS,
YEAH.

YOU
ARE NEARLY
AS **FAST** AS
HIM, YES. THESE
CAVES ARE A DAY'S
TRAVEL FROM THE CITY
AND YET YOU HAVE
GOTTEN US HERE
IN **MOMENTS**,
LIKE HIM.

SO IT
IS TRUE--
THE GREAT
NOLAN HAS
SIIRED AN OFF-
SPRING.



IF YOU ARE
POWERFUL ENOUGH
TO WITHSTAND MY
ASSAULT, YOU WILL
BE ALLOWED TO LIVE.
YOU WILL BE WORTHY
TO STAND BY MY
SIDE--A SOLDIER
OF THE VILTRUM
EMPIRE.

IF YOU
ARE NOT--
YOU WILL
DIE.